

The Daily Courant.

Monday, April 30. 1705.

London, April 29.

IN former Courants, Notice has been taken in general, of the frequent Alterations made by the King of France in the Denomination of the Value of his Coyn; and some of the more remarkable *Arrets* on that Subject, have been inserted by us intire or in Part. We shall in this and the next Courant, present the Publick with the Preambles and Tenour of 3 fresh *Arrets* of that Sort; and leave it to Consideration, whether the King of France's giving so much Vexation to his Subjects, as must inevitably arise from the Disorder and Prejudice these *Arrets* (that are publish'd so fast one upon the Neck of another,) must bring upon all Manner of Business, do not naturally argue his Affairs to be in a very perplex'd Condition, and his Occasions to be extremely pressing.

To these 3 *Arrets*, we shall subjoin a new Declaration of that King's; in which, to raise the Credit of his borrowing Chest, he promises 10 per Cent Interest for the Sums that shall be paid into it; and at the same time forbids all Brokers, &c. to negotiate any Bills of Exchange, or Notes under Hand to Bearer, at more than 10 per Cent, on severe Penalties.

From the Amsterdam Courant, dated April 10.

The King being willing, by one Delay more, to afford his Subjects the Means of avoiding Loss by the Diminutions of the Coyn appointed to be on the 1st Day of April next, as well of the old as of the new Species, by the *Arrets* of Council of the 23d of December, 1704, the 3d and 20th of January, and the 3d and 14th of February, 1705. The said *Arrets* being perus'd; and the Report of the Sieur Chamillart, Councillor in Ordinary of the Royal Council, Comptroller General of the Finances, being heard. His Majesty in Council has order'd and orders, that till the 15th of April next ensuing, the Species that have not been reform'd pursuant to the Edict of the Month of May last, shall continue to be receiv'd in the Mints and Offices of Receipt mention'd in the *Arrets* of Council, and among others in that of the 21st of June 1704, at the Value specified in the *Arret* of the 3d of January last; that is to say the Louisd'or at 13 Livres 10 Sols; the Crown at three Livres twelve Sols, the lesser Pieces in Proportion. After the Expiration of which Term, the said unreform'd Species shall not be receiv'd in the said Mints or Offices, at more than Twelve Livres 10 Sols the Louis d'Or, and 3 Livres 8 Sols the Crown, &c. conformably to the *Arrets* of Council of the 23d of December and the 3d of January last, which shall be in Force till the said 15th of April next according to their Form and Tenour, without Prejudicing or lessening the Fines, Confiscations, and other Penalties, denounc'd against those who melt down, offer to dispose of, receive or keep the said unreform'd Species by the *Arrets* of Council of the 16th and 26 of August, the 11th of November, and the 23d of December 1704, which 'tis his Majesty's Will and Intention shall be put in Execution. He likewise orders, that till the said 15th Day of April next, the said Species that are reform'd pursuant to the Edict of May last, shall continue to pass in Trade, the Louis d'Or at 14 Livres 15 Sols, the Crown at 3 Livres 19 Sols, &c. After the Expiration of which Term, the said Species shall be and remain reduc'd conformably to the said *Arret* of Feb. 14 last, that is to say, the Louis d'Or to 14 Livres 10 Sols, the Crown to 3 Livres 18 Sols, &c. Done in the King's Council of State,

held at Versailles the 17th of March 1705. Sign'd Goujon.

* A People that is oblig'd to observe carefully so many Edicts and *Arrets* as are cited in this one *Arret* above; has doubtless a happy Time on't

The King having caus'd to be laid before him in Council the Edicts of the Months of September, 1693, and 1701, and of May 1704; his Majesty's Declaration of the 28th of November of the said Year, 1693; the *Arret* of the Council of the 28th of February of the same Year; the Declaration of the 16th of October 1703, touching the Mints; and the *Arrets* of the Council of the 16th and 25th of August, and of the 11th of November last; by which the Louis d'Or and Crowns not reform'd pursuant to the Edict of the Month of May last, are cry'd down and forbid all Course in Commerce: And his Majesty being inform'd, that notwithstanding their being cry'd down, *those Species are daily offer'd and receiv'd in Trade between Merchants and all sorts of Persons, through the Negligence of the Officers of the Mints, and those of the ordinary Justice, who contrary to the Duty of their Offices, use no Diligence to suppress an Abuse so prejudicial to the King, to the State, and to Commerce; The Report of the Sieur Chamillart, Councillor. &c. being heard.* His Majesty in Council has forbidden, and most expressly and repeatedly forbids all manner of Persons, of what Quality or Condition soever, to sell or buy such Species, at a higher Rate than what is allow'd by the Edicts, Declarations, and Regulations of Council, or to melt them down, in Breach of the Ordinances both Ancient and Modern, on the Penalty of Confiscation of the said Species, so sold, bought, or melted down, and of a Fine, which shall not be less than double their Value, one half to the King, the other half to the Informer; and of corporal Punishment in Case of a second Offence of the same Nature; which Penalties shall not be reputed comminatory. All Persons whatsoever are likewise forbidden, to offer or receive in Trade, Louis d'Or or Crowns that are not reform'd pursuant to the Edict of the Month of May last, and which have been cry'd down by the *Arrets* of the Council of the 16th and 26th of August, and of the 11th of November last, on the same Penalties of Confiscation and Fine of double their Value, and of corporal Punishment in case of a repeated Offence; the Confiscations and Fines applicable as aforesaid. His Majesty's Will is, and he orders, that those who have by them such unreform'd and cry'd down Species, shall carry or send them to his Mints and Offices for changing Money, to be there reform'd (that is, Stamp'd with a certain Mark,) pursuant to the said Edict of the Month of May last, where the Value shall be paid to them at the Rate establish'd by the *Arrets* and Regulations of the Council; and that they be received at that Rate in all the Royal Offices of Receipt, as is express'd in the said *Arrets*. He likewise orders, conformably to the *Arret* of Council of the 24th of February 1693; and others made in Consequence of it, that the said unreform'd Species that shall be found in the Possession of private Persons or Communities, among any Effects seiz'd by Authority of Justice, shall be confiscated to his Majesty's Profit; and that the Offenders if living, their Heirs, or others, who hid them, shall be Find double the value of the same, nor shall that Penalty be reputed comminatory, nor be moderated on any Pretence whatever. His Majesty likewise expressly and repeatedly forbids all his Subjects,

jects, Inhabitants of the Kingdom, and Strangers, to export on any Pretence whatever, any Species of Gold or Silver, or Bullion, without Leave in Writing from his Majesty, on the Penalties express'd in the Declarations of the 28th of November 1693, and of the 6th of October 1703, &c. Done in the Council of State, at Versailles, the 17th of March 1705. Sign'd Gonjon.

The Preamble of this *Arret*, is the plainest Demonstration that the Subjects of France, tho' by Nature obsequious and long inur'd to Servitude, have a heavier Yoke upon their Necks than they can well bear. For, no Man who is acquainted with the French Government can deny that to be a most intolerable Edict or Order of the King and Council, which the People not only dare to disobey, but the Officers of the Mints (who are the King's immediate Servants) as well as those who administer Ordinary Justice, are forc'd to see disobey'd, without exerting their Authority. And if the mercenary Officers and inferior Ministers of that Iron Government, are touch'd with Humanity; if they can be with-held by common Compassion from enforcing the Execution of their Master's Orders; What could keep the People under, but even the Misery to which by very vile though cunning Methods, (easy to be trac'd) he has by degrees (in the long course of his Reign) at length reduc'd them? And in which he will keep them, so long as he can keep Standing Armies. This may not only warn other Nations who enjoy the Blessing of Liberty, to be always tenacious of it against any Power, which on any Pretences whatsoever, would either break the civil Balance of their Constitution, (for they cannot be sure of equitable Laws longer than that Balance subsists) or wrest the Sword out of their Hands, (which is the only Tenure of Freedom), but, if duly consider'd, might justly inspire the Allies, who have at present so many real Advantages in all respects over the common Enemy, to take up a most laudable and generous Resolution, not to make Peace with France unless the Government of that Kingdom be restor'd to its antient and legal Form. This, we humbly presume to say, is not only a most honourable and compassionate Resolution; but will prove the only safe and certain Means of securing the Liberties of Europe: For if the King of France be suffered, upon a Peace, to continue in the despotick Power, he has unjustly usurp'd, and to keep up numerous Standing Forces, he will in no long Time easily recover Breath again, and infallibly renew his Attempts at Universal Monarchy, when (it may well be apprehended) it will be difficult, perhaps impossible, to form another Alliance of Force and good Fortune enough to baffle him: Or this Inconvenience at least will follow, that designing Princes will have a mischievous Pretence to keep up standing Troops as long as the Monarch of France does; and those Potentates who have only the laudable Thoughts of preserving Peace and making their People happy, will be put upon Methods both expensive and uneasy to their Subjects, if not dangerous to themselves, to keep upon their necessary Guard. If any Man think the Proposition of reducing France to its ancient and legal Form of Government, too Chimerical, and unreasonable to be demanded; he is desir'd to consider, that the French King himself is at this Day actually making War against us, principally to impose upon us a King of his own making, in opposition to the Rights, Liberties, and Laws, of a free People. These Observations might be carried much further: But the Writer of this Paper resigns them to others who have profess'dly undertaken to entertain the Publick on such or the like Arguments; He rather begs Pardon for going out of his usual Road, which he could, without any Restraint upon his Inclinations, have forborn, but that he thought it not amiss to satisfy (for once) some Gentlemen who either being misinform'd or mistaking the Design of the Courant, will needs have it that he is a Jacobite. He will only add, that if it be objected that such a Peace with France must be bought excessive dear, he does, without examining whether that Objection have intrinsic Weight, (though he thinks he can make out that it has not) answer, that if Europe cannot have durable Liberty at a low Price (as he is bold to affirm from things past, they cannot) it must be purchas'd at any Rate it can be had, though never so dear: And if it be further urg'd, that the Allies have not the Means in their Hands of making such a Purchase, he answers, that if the King of France be indeed invincible, why then, Ruin for Ruin, we had as good be undone and enslav'd now our Hands are in and we see our game; for another Time we may be trick'd out of our Liber-

ty, or be unable at least to sell it so dear as we may at present. But to conclude, he leaves it to be consider'd, whether if the Allies should take such a Resolution, and publicly declare it, it be not reasonable to expect, from the Example of the Cevennois, that nothing could more influence the oppressed French Nation to make some vigorous Effort for themselves. For what can influence more, than to put People in the lowest Misery, into the highest Hopes of Relief.

Lieutenant General Erle, is declar'd Lieutenant General of the Ordnance, and one of Her Majesty's Privy Council.

Robert Yard Esq; one of the Commissioners for Prizes, dyed on Friday last.

London, April 30.

Yesterday 3 Mails arriv'd from Holland: The Prints were not sent out till 3 a Clock in the Afternoon: A little before which Hour, the Writer of this Paper having Occasion to go out of Town, and returning late, had not Time (for he would have made Room, by leaving out the preceeding Reflection) to give a larger Account of the News contain'd in them than what follows: But he will endeavour to make Amends in to Morrow's and the succeeding Courants.

The Paris Gazette of May 2, which is the freshest Date from thence, says the Siege of Gibraltar is continued. But the Paris Letter of May 1 says a Courier from the Marshal de Thesse had brought Advice that it was turn'd into a Blockade: And that by Order of the King of France the said Marshal has put 3000 Men into Cadiz, with Provisions and Ammunition necessary.

Hague, April 25. By Letters which are arriv'd this day from the Moselle, we have Advice that the Marshal de Villars march't on the 19th Instant with 12000 Men in Order to surprize the Garrison of Hombourg, that an Ensign that commanded an Out Post about two Leagues from the Town having Notice thereof gave the Commandant an Account time enough to make the Necessary Preparations for their Reception, about 3 in the Afternoon the Marshal with his Army appear'd before the Place and having summon'd it immediately, drew out 600 Grenadiers for an Assault and order'd 30 Squadrons of Horse to sustain them, but seeing the good Posture of the Garrison, and the Cannon of the Place beginning to gall the Horse, the Marshal thought fit to quit his Enterprize the next Morning, and to march to Denxpoits, which being a Place of no Defence the Troops in Quarters there retired, whereupon the Enemy plunder'd the Town, and set fire to several Villages in the Neighbourhood belonging to the King of Sweden, they are since march't back, as it is suppos'd towards Saar Lewis.

The Troops which are to compose the Army on the Meuse are on their March towards Mastricht, where that Army will be form'd the 6th of May.

The English Troops have Orders to march out of their Garrisons on the first of May and his Grace the Duke of Marlborough will join them on the March the beginning of next Week.

On Monday last, the 4th of May N. S. the Duke of Marlborough, set out from the Hague to go to Ruremonde.

For the Benefit of Mr. Mills.

At the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, this Monday the 30th of April, will be Reviv'd, a Comedy call'd, *Love's Last Shift*, Or, *The Fool in Fashion*. It being the last time of Acting till after May-Fair. With several Entertainments of Singing by Mr. Leveridge, Mr. Hughs, Mrs. Lindsey, and the new Boy. Particularly, the Frolic Musick in the 4th Act of *King Arthur*, Compos'd by the late Mr. Henry Purcell, and perform'd by Mr. Leveridge, Mr. Hughs, the new Boy, and others, with the proper Scenes belonging to the Musick. And several Serious and Grotesque Dances by Monsieur du Ruel, Mrs. du Ruel, Monsieur Cherrier, and Mrs. Moss.

At the Queen's Theatre in the Hay-Market, this present Mouday, being the 30th of April, will be Reviv'd, a Comedy call'd, *Don Quixote*: The part of Don Quixote to be Acted by Mr. Bowen. And every thing else as it was Originally.